

REMARKS

In a first Office Action dated July 2, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. (U.S. patent no. 6,621,809, hereinafter referred to as "Lee '809") in view of Lee et al. (U.S. patent no. 6,674,739, hereinafter referred to as "Lee '739"). The rejections are traversed and reconsideration is hereby respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee '809 in view of Lee '739. Claim 1, as amended, provides a method for providing control information in a communication system that includes providing a first persistent forward link control channel communicating a first set of control information to at least one component within the communication system and providing a second dedicated forward link control channel selectively communicating a second set of control information to the at least one component within the communication system based on the first set of control information. These features of claim 1 are not taught by Lee '809 or Lee '739.

Lee '809 is concerned with discontinuous transmissions, or gated transmissions, of data during an active data communication session (as opposed to an active voice communication session) between a base station (BS) and a mobile station (MS). During a data communication session, data transmission occurs intermittently. As a result, maintaining a dedicated control channel and a traffic channel during periods of non-transmission (that is, when the MS is in a "control hold" state) is wasteful; however, releasing the dedicated control channel and the traffic channel during periods of non-transmission results in excessive reconnection time when there is more data to transmit. To resolve this problem, Lee '809 notes that it has been proposed that the dedicated control channel be maintained and the traffic channel be released when the MS is in the control hold state. The BS then transmits a power control signal over the dedicated control channel in order to maintain synchronization. Lee '809 then proposes a method for controlling the periodic transmission of, that is, the gating period of, this power control signal when the MS is in the control hold state.

The Examiner notes that Lee '809 teaches multiple forward control channels, that is, a forward common control channel and a forward dedicated control channel (col. 8, lines 15-20). However, nowhere does Lee '809 teach a forward control channel transmitting control information that is based on control information transmitted by the other control channel. The Examiner further notes that Lee teaches a transmission of a channel assignment message (col. 10, lines 55-62) that may assign the dedicated control channel or the traffic channel. However, it was well-known in the art that channel assignment messages were conveyed via a paging channel. In addition, the power control bits referenced by the Examiner (col. 8, lines 31-34) are stated as being conveyed via the dedicated control channel and typically are used to control a power of a reverse link transmission and not a forward link transmission.

Therefore, nowhere does Lee '809 teach the features of claim 1 of a second dedicated forward link control channel that selectively communicates a second set of control information to at least one component within communication system based on a first set of control information communicated to the at least one component by a first persistent forward link control channel.

In the section of Lee '739 cited by the Examiner (col. 3, line 60- col. 4, line 1), Lee '739 teaches conveying, via a forward control channel, information concerning a reverse link channel, and more particularly a spreading code for spreading the reverse link channel. This is different from conveying, via a persistent forward control channel, information concerning a dedicated forward control channel. Therefore, neither Lee '809 nor Lee '739, individually or in combination, teaches the features of claim 1 of providing a first persistent forward link control channel communicating a first set of control information to at least one component within the communication system and providing a second dedicated forward link control channel selectively communicating a second set of control information to the at least one component within the communication system based on the first set of control information. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request that claim 1 may now be passed to allowance.

Since claims 2-12 depend upon allowable claim 1, the applicants respectfully request that claims 2-12 may now be passed to allowance.

Claim 13 teaches an apparatus for providing control information in a communication system that includes a first persistent forward link control channel transmitter configured for transmitting a first set of control information to at least one component within the communication system and a second dedicated forward link control channel transmitter configured for selectively transmitting a second set of control information to the at least one component within the communication system based on the first set of control information. As noted above, these features are not taught by Lee '809 nor Lee '739, individually or in combination. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request that claim 13 may now be passed to allowance.

Since claims 14-27 depend upon allowable claim 13, the applicants respectfully request that claims 14-27 may now be passed to allowance.

As the applicants have overcome all substantive rejections and objections given by the Examiner and have complied with all requests properly presented by the Examiner, the applicants contend that this Amendment, with the above discussion, overcomes the Examiner's objections to and rejections of the pending claims. Therefore, the applicants respectfully solicit allowance of the application. If the Examiner is of the opinion that any issues regarding the status of the claims remain after this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative to expedite resolution of the matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Love et al.

By: 

Steven A. May
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,912
Phone No.: 847/576-3635
Fax No.: 847/576-3750